



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 29, 2018

Mr. Brian Polgrean
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.
One Industrial Complex
Nesquehoning, PA 18240

NEF-150MR
18V-172

Subject: Front Axle Spindle may Fracture

Dear Mr. Polgrean:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

KME/PREDATOR AERIAL/2007
KME/PREDATOR PUMPER/2007-2012
KME/PREDATOR RESCUE/2008-2011
KME/PREDATOR SS AERIAL/2013
KME/PREDATOR TANKER/2007

Mfr's Report Date: March 14, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-172

Components:

SUSPENSION:FRONT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 12

Problem Description:

Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp. (KME) is recalling certain 2007-2012 KME Predator Pumper, 2013 Predator SS Aerial, 2007 Predator Aerial, 2008-2011 Predator Rescue, and 2007 Predator Tanker vehicles, equipped with Timoney Independent Front Suspensions. Inconsistent machining may result in fatigue cracks developing over time in the front axle spindles, causing failure of the spindle and the possible separation of a front wheel from the vehicle.

Consequence:

A wheel separation from the vehicle can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

KME will notify owners, and dealers will replace the front axle spindle, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 30, 2018. Owners may contact KME customer service at 1-800-235-3928.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement